

### In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 10, 11, 15, 16, 20, 26 and 27 as follows:

*Sub C, 7*  
1. (Amended) A rotary cutting die for cooperating with a rotary anvil to cut corrugated board comprising:

- A*
- (a) a base;
  - (b) at least one scrap cutting blade secured to the base of the cutting die for cutting a piece of scrap from a sheet of corrugated board that is directed through a nip defined between the cutting die and the anvil;
  - (c) at least one scrap stripper mounted to the base adjacent the blade for stripping a cut scrap piece from the blade and for urging the cut scrap piece against the anvil as the cut scrap piece exits the nip;
  - (d) the at least one scrap stripper being constructed of a resilient material and including a base, and a flexible finger integral with the base and extending outwardly over the base and at an acute angle with respect to the base such that an opening is defined between the angled finger and the base; [therefrom at an angle, and an open area defined between the base and the flexible finger;] and
  - (e) wherein the flexible finger is movable between a retracted position where the finger [it] lies adjacent the base and an extended position where at least a portion of the finger is separated from the base.

2. (Amended) The rotary cutting die of claim 1 wherein the finger forms an acute angle of approximately 30-75 degrees with the base.

3. (Amended) The rotary cutting die of claim 1 wherein the cutting die is designed to rotate in a certain direction and wherein the finger is angled away from said [the] direction [of travel].

6. (Amended) The rotary cutting die of claim 1 wherein prior to entering the nip, the scrap stripper assumes an erect position and upon entering the nip, the finger is closed adjacent the base and the finger and base are compressed together, and upon moving from the nip both the base and the finger expand and the finger separates from the base and moves outwardly towards the erect [its extended] position and in the process the finger engages and holds the [a] cut piece of scrap adjacent the anvil such that the anvil acts to direct the cut scrap away from the cutting die and anvil.

8. (Amended) A method of cutting corrugated board passing between a rotary cutting die and an anvil, stripping one or more cut scrap pieces from a scrap cutting blade, and directing the cut scrap from the cutting die and anvil, comprising;

(a) directing a sheet of corrugated board through a nip area defined between the cutting die and anvil;

(b) cutting one or more scrap pieces from the corrugated board as it passes through the nip;

(c) utilizing a scrap stripper having a base and a flexible, angled finger to strip the cut scrap piece from the scrap blade and to control (the direction of movement) of the scrap piece as it exits the nip, and wherein the flexible finger is integral with the base and extends outwardly over the base at an acute angle with respect to the base such that an opening is defined between the angled finger and the base;

(d) compressing the scrap stripper between the cutting die and the scrap piece by bending and compressing the finger against the base, closing the opening existing between the angled finger and the base, and compressing both the finger and base as the scrap stripper moves through the nip;

(e) expanding the scrap stripper as it moves from the nip and engaging the cut scrap piece and stripping it from the scrap cutting blade; and

(f) extending the flexible finger outwardly as the scrap stripper moves from the nip and engaging the cut scrap piece with the extended finger and holding the cut scrap piece against the anvil with the finger such that the anvil tends to direct the cut scrap piece away from the nip and away from the cutting die and anvil.

10. (Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the scrap stripper is oriented such that the finger thereof, when extended, extends in a general direction opposite a [the] direction of travel of the cutting die.

11. (Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein [the scrap stripper comprises a resilient member having a base and a] the finger is flexible and angled [finger extending] and extends from the base such that an open space is defined between the angled finger and the base.

15. (Amended) A rotary cutting die having one or more scrap strippers for stripping cut scrap pieces from one or more scrap cutting blades associated with the cutting die comprising;

- (a) a board;
- (b) at least one blade mounted on the board for cutting scrap;
- (c) at least one resilient scrap stripper mounted on the board adjacent the scrap cutting blade for stripping a cut scrap piece from the blade; and

(d) the scrap stripper including a base, an outer flexible portion extending outwardly over [from] the base and at an acute angle with respect to the base and being movable back and forth between an extended position and a retracted position, and an open relief area defined intermediately between the outer portion and the base within the scrap stripper that permits the outer flexible portion to flex back and forth between the extended and retracted positions.

16. (Amended) The cutting die of claim 15 wherein the rotary cutting die is adapted to work in conjunction with a rotary anvil; and wherein the outer portion of the scrap stripper flexes backwardly, in a direction generally opposite to the direction of travel of the cutting die, as the scrap stripper moves through a nip area defined between the cutting die and the [an associated] anvil. NO WEIGHT

9.4 20. (Amended) The rotary cutting die of claim 18 wherein the scrap stripper includes a finger that forms an angle [angled] of approximately 30-75 degrees with the base.

9.7 26. (Amended) The rotary cutting die of claim 24 [25] wherein the cutting die is operative to cooperate with an anvil and wherein the [weighted portion of the] scrap stripper includes a weighted portion that is generally urged outwardly from the board of the cutting die under the influence of centrifugal force as the scrap stripper exits a nip area defined between the cutting die and the anvil. AB

9.7  
(N/L) 27. (Amended) A rotary cutting die having one or more scrap strippers for stripping cut scrap pieces from one or more blades associated with the cutting die, comprising: a board; at least one blade mounted on the board for cutting scrap; at least one resilient scrap stripper mounted on the board adjacent the scrap cutting blade for stripping a cut scrap piece from the blade; and the scrap stripper including a base and an outer